

June 24

FEW ARRIVALS AT THIS PORT.

Only One Georges Drifter and One Small Herring Trip.

Today is another dull day in the fish trade, so far as receipts the past 24 hours are concerned, for only two arrivals with fish are reported this morning, sch. Eglantine, with 50,000 pounds of salt cod, and steamer Florence and Mildred, one of the shore seiners, which succeeded in bagging 100 barrels of herring, a portion of which were sold here for bait.

This scarcity supply of fish is somewhat disappointing to the buyers, for they naturally expect more at this time. With the small receipts now coming forward, it is evident that the fishermen are not having the luck of last year. If the trawlers and dory handliners which have been out since early spring had met with any degree of success, they would now be returning in order that they might get back for caplin baiting, which is so desirable in the codfish season.

Not only is the Grand Bank codfisheries finding fish scarce, but those fishing nearer home in what is known as drifting, are not meeting with the usual success of past years.

All indications now point to light receipts for some time yet, and some do not predict the big catch of last year, for the outlook at present time does not warrant it.

The arrivals and receipts today in detail are:

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Eglantine, Georges, drifting, 50,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Stilletto, Block Island, seining.

Sch. Gladys and Sabra, via Boston. Steamer Florence and Mildred, seining, 100 bbls. fresh herring.

Sch. Tecumseh, netting.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Rose Dorothea, haddocking.

Sch. Genesta, haddocking.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, haddocking.

Sch. Clara G. Silva, haddocking.

Sch. Buema, haddocking.

Sch. Rebecca Bartlett, Maine coast.

Sch. Slade Gorton, seining.

Sch. James W. Parker, shacking.

Sch. Thomas Brundage, Boston.

Today's Fish Market.

Cape Shore salt mackerel, \$15.50 per bbl.

Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$2.

Large salt handline Georges cod, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3 per cwt.; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Outside sales drift Georges salt cod, \$3.50 per cwt. for large and \$3 for mediums.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.

Salt pollock, \$1.25 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1.25; salt hake, \$1.25.

Round pollock, 70 cts. per cwt.; dressed pollock, 75 cts.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.60; medium cod, \$1.40; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1.20 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, round, 65 cts.; dressed, 70 cts.

June 25.

FINLEY MAKES THOROUGH ARGUMENT.

He Presents British Side of the Fish Question at the Hague.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Monday, June 13, the sixth day of The Hague Fisheries arbitration, proved by far the most interesting, outside possibly of the second, when Sir Robert Finlay presented the stand of Great Britain on the seven questions.

Sir Robert took up the conventions of 1877 and came down chronologically through all the latter day events, including the Fortune Bay incident, and the Newfoundland Acts of 1905

and 1906, to the time of the submission of the whole matter to The Hague Tribunal.

Sir Robert will now take up, seriatim, the seven questions in the Agreement and expound on them, from the British standpoint and from the standpoint of international law.

It is figured that this he will probably conclude by June 17 and that ex-Senator Turner will open for the United States, Monday, June 20.

The Arbitration of 1877, to which Sir Robert referred in opening, Monday morning, was held under the 23d article of the treaty of 1871.

June 25.

BOSTON FISH RECEIPTS FAIR.

Prices Well Sustained for Close of Week.

Receipts of fish at Boston today make a better showing there being a dozen or so arrivals with moderate fares, so the market for the last of the week is sufficiently supplied. Prices are all that can be expected and on some kinds firmer than really expected.

Three seiners with good trips of fresh mackerel are reported at T wharf and prices of the same are quoted 22 and 24½ cents each.

Most of the vessels in today are from off shore and a larger portion of their fares are haddock, which brought two cents per pound which is a good price for the last of the week.

The receipts and prices in detail are:

Boston Arrivals.

Steamer Bessie M. Dugan, 12,000 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Manomet, 12,000 haddock, 1500 lock.

Sch. Georgie, 5000 fresh mackerel, 64 bbls. salt mackerel.

Sch. Hope, 1200 haddock, 6000 cod, 14,000 hake.

Sch. Victor and Ethan, 20,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 22,000 haddock 2000 cod.

Sch. Lucania, 13,000 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Fannie Enos, 1000 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Hattie F. Knowlton, 3500 haddock, 600 cod.

Sch. Laura Enos, 1000 cod, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Diana, 650 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Wodan, 50 fresh mackerel.

Haddock, \$2 to \$2.10 per cwt.; large cod, \$2.50; market cod, \$1.50; hake, \$2; mackerel, 22 and 24 1-2 cts. each.

Sch. Lucania, 13,000 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Georgia, 5000 fresh mackerel, 54 barrels salt mackerel.

Sch. Wodan, 50 fresh mackerel.

The Salt Fish Market.

Stocks Still Continue Low, with Fair Demand and Firm Prices.

There is no perceptible change to note in the general character of the salt fish market and there is no incentive in the way of professional trading. The undertone has been quiet, but not any more than was expected. In fact, shipments have been of a satisfactory order, and fully up to expectations. This is not a time when any great activity is noticeable and neither do dealers expect it. The demand, however, for cut fish has been such that shipments have used up most of the stock which dealers had on hand, so that present holdings for future call are exceedingly light and is liable to be for some time.

June 25.

The new stock of bank cod have not come forward in such large receipts as for the corresponding period of last year. While the salt bank cod-fishing fleet is larger than that of last year, their change of method of fishing has been changed from trawl to handline, and the latter to date has met with poor success. This will prevent their return at an early date from their spring trips, bringing them well into summer, before they get back into port. But nine or 10 vessels of this fleet are trawl fishing and most of these have arrived with good fares, which added to the old stock held by the skippers, has given them a fairly good supply to enable them to fill orders such as they are accustomed to receiving during June and July. By that time the handline fleet may return when the depleted stock will be replenished.

Even with this in view, it seems that genuine cod will be much scarcer than that of one year ago. It is, however, expected and it is the sentiment of the big operators that salt fish will be much higher than at present, for buying ex-vessel shows an advance over quotations from those of one year ago.

Portland Fish Notes.

One of the biggest fares of shad landed in Portland for some time was that brought in by the Boothbay steamer Dolphin Thursday. She had on board 130 barrels of the bony fish and discharged them at the plant of the Portland Cold Storage Company. This fare would total nearly 40,000 pounds of fish. They were landed in seines off Small Point.

Another trip of shad brought in Thursday was that on board the sloop Alice G., which had 30 barrels. The Wilbur A. Morse landed 30 barrels of herring, also for the Cold Storage Co.

Control All Codfishing?

The Seattle Post Intelligencer says: "A deal, which aims at the unification of all the codfishing on the Pacific coast is now in progress and necessary arrangements completed, backed by San Francisco and Boston capital.

"On Puget Sound five companies have been engaged in codfishing in the Bering sea and the industry has grown from two schooners half a dozen years ago, to a locally controlled fleet numbering over a dozen vessels."

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES VIEW.

American Writer Studies Conditions on the Question in That Section.

Fishermen of the Two Countries Are Friends, But Nations War.

The writer had spent several days at the Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, engaged in studying local methods of the herring fishery and in getting first hand information regarding the fisheries dispute from the Newfoundland point of view. For the fisheries question, in its economic aspects at least, concerns itself with the securing of herring by American fishermen on the west coast of Newfoundland.

Formerly the question involved the inshore fishery for mackerel at the Magdalen Islands and in other parts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence; but in late years the inshore catch of mackerel in the gulf has been so small that this fishery, both in economic importance and in its international aspects, may be left out of consideration. The real question today centres about the herring fishery of Newfoundland, says Raymond MacFarland in the Boston Transcript.

"What is the trouble between your people and the American fishermen?" I asked of a merchant with whom I was in conversation. "The trouble is not that way," he replied. "We like them and they like us. The trouble is between our government and the American fishermen." Further inquiries among the fishermen of Bay of Islands failed to reveal anything but the most friendly feelings towards Gloucester skippers and their crews. In fact, I received positive assurance from the government magistrate, Mr. Bardett, that the Americans are considerably more popular among the Newfoundland fishermen than are their own kinsmen who resort to the Bay of Islands from Nova Scotia and other British possessions. The Americans are more hospitable towards the native fishermen, they generally treat the workmen better, and pay more liberally for the fish.

The fall herring fishery of Newfoundland begins about the middle of October and lasts until the bays freeze over, which is usually near the first of the year. The fishery is carried on by means of nets by native fishermen from the vicinity of Bay of Islands, Bay St. George, Bonne Bay and other settlements on the western coast of the island. Under the law the herring may be admitted to this country

Duty Free if Brought in American Bottoms.

American merchants send vessels for cargoes of salt herring to be used in the smoked and bloated herring industries at Gloucester and Boston, and for frozen herring to be sold for food and for bait in the deep-sea fisheries. The cargoes of frozen herring are sold at Gloucester, Boston and New York.

There are three ways in which American vessels may secure cargoes of herring at Newfoundland. Using their rights under the convention of 1818, they may take their own crews, nets, dories and other gear and catch their own cargoes. This procedure is rarely resorted to now. Again, under the terms of the *modus vivendi* American fishing vessels have the privilege of entering bays and harbors of Newfoundland at a fee of \$1.50 per ton for the purpose of purchasing bait. In recent years, however, another arrangement has been in practice—Gloucester captains have agreed with government officials at Bay of Islands to forego temporarily their right of fishing and to become traders. Under this arrangement licenses are issued free of cost to all vessels to purchase herring, and likewise to native fishermen, enabling them to catch, take and sell herring to any ship or vessel for export for food purposes. The purchaser of the herring agrees that not less than \$1.25 per barrel will be paid for the fish. As a matter of fact, the usual selling price for salt herring is between \$1.25 and \$2 per barrel, and for frozen herring from \$2 to \$3.50 per barrel.

The herring fishermen of Newfoundland have good reason to feel kindly disposed towards American fishermen. The fall herring fishery is carried on at a time when other fisheries of the west coast are lax, so that the influx of American gold is most acceptable to the local fishermen at the beginning of their long winter. Between 300 and 400 Newfoundland boats, with three men in each, engage in the fishery. The men share from \$25 to \$250 apiece for a little more than two months' work, the amount of the share depending largely on luck in securing fish. In 1907 the best boat at Birchy Cove, Bay of Islands, with three in the crew, shared \$985.

American fishermen leave more money in western Newfoundland than is derived from any other source. From 1904 to 1908 there were annually at Newfoundland for cargoes of herring 58 American vessels against 31 British vessels. The value of the herring purchased by the American fleet was \$185,000 on an average for each year, and most of the money went direct into the hands of the Newfoundland boat fishermen. The value of herring secured by British vessels in the same time was \$100,000 annually. It is of vital importance to the Newfoundland fisherman that no change be made in the fisheries agreement that will lessen the influx of American gold.

As the Fisheries Question Now Stands It Is a Three-Sided Affair

in which Canada, Newfoundland and the United States are each striving to hold fast to the privileges they now possess and, if possible, to further their commercial interests by new treaty arrangements. Canada, on her part, wishes to secure the free admission of her fish and fishery products into our country. Her own markets are inadequate for the annual supply of fish that her maritime provinces furnish. She believes that the removal of import duty from fish would lessen the cost of fish to the American consumer and would thus develop a greater market for the products of the sea that her fishermen can secure. Canada occupies an advantageous position in the mackerel fishery and has excellent boat and train facilities for shipping fresh fish into American markets.

Newfoundland occupies a prominent place in the fisheries question due to the fact that the supply of bait used in the deep sea fisheries centres largely on her shore. She contends that the bait supply is indispensable to the fishermen of the United States, and that the present arrangement of license fees from American vessels is an inadequate return to the government for the privileges of securing bait. Newfoundland, too, would like to have the privilege of free entry of their fish into this country.

The United States realizes the value of the Newfoundland herring supply to the smoked and bloater herring industries of New England, and its greater importance to the successful pursuit of the deep sea fisheries. She will do nothing to jeopard these interests; furthermore, she ought to increase the privileges of American fishermen in Newfoundland waters.

The Free Admission of Canada's Fish and Fish Products

is not wanted by our people. Such a policy would seriously cripple the New England fishing industry. The privilege of taking fish within the three-mile limit in Canadian waters is of small importance to the American fisherman today, so that Canada possesses few rights and privileges in the fisheries in exchange for the privilege of the free entry of her fish. The fisheries of Newfoundland, on the other hand, could not compete so successfully with American fisheries. Newfoundland is more remote from our markets than Canada is, her transportation facilities are poor, and she does not possess an extensive fresh fish industry.

Why, then, do not the United States and Newfoundland enter into a fisheries agreement that would be mutually beneficial? The Blaine-Bond agreement was such an attempt but it met with the veto of the imperial cabinet. During the progress of the negotiations Canada entered a protest against the agreement on the ground that Newfoundland should not be permitted to make an arrangement with the United States and barter away her inshore fisheries because these were the joint possession of all the British North American Provinces of Great Britain. The importance of Canadian interests and the relative insignificance of Newfoundland as a colony led to the suspension of negotiations that would have been beneficial to Newfoundland. In the great game of imperial administration the individual was sacrificed for the good to the team. It would seem that this is the position in which Newfoundland and her interests have been placed ever since.

RAYMOND MCFARLAND.
Middlebury, Vt., June 20.

June 25.

THREE SEINERS AT BOSTON.

Mackerel Netters Also at Newport and New Bedford.

The mackerel situation shows but little improvement from that of the past two weeks. Another vessel, sch. Morning Star, arrived today from Cape Shore, via Block Island, without taking and fish. Capt. Decker said he saw a few small schools during the week, off the lightship, but it did not appear to him as if there was any great body of fish.

The little steamer Bessie M. Dugan arrived at Boston yesterday with a fine fare of 12,000 mackerel which Capt. Vautier reported to have taken off San-katy Head and on the Rips. There were several vessels in the vicinity at the time and some of them are reported to have taken small schools of fish.

The netters at Newport are only making small catches and the outlook out there is not so good as it was earlier in the season.

This forenoon more favorable news was received when sch. Lucania was reported arriving at Boston with a fare of 13,000 fresh mackerel, sch. Georgia with 5000 fresh and 54 barrels salt mackerel and the netter Wodan with 50 mackerel, which were caught on the Rips. The fish are large and sold for 22 to 24½ cents each.

Seiners at Boston.

Steamer Bessie M. Dugan, 12,000 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Lucania, 13,000 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Georgia, 5000 fresh mackerel, 54 barrels salt mackerel.

Netters at Boston.

Sch. Wodan, 50 fresh mackerel.

Netters at New Bedford.

Sch. Edna Morse, 300 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Maime, 400 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Little Flirt, 1000 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Florence, 400 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Sylvester, 400 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Rocket, 700 fresh mackerel.

Sch. James Kelly, 300 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Gypsy Maid, 200 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Bestey Ross, 450 fresh mackerel.

Netters at Newport.

Sch. Reliance, 850 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Conquest, 1000 fresh mackerel.